



CALVIN
MINDS IN THE MAKING

Calvin College President's Report 2010-2011





Dear friends:

Recently, the owner of an engineering firm said to me: “We like to hire Calvin grads because they have innovative ideas and a passion for applying what they’ve learned to the real world. They also come with a real Christian perspective on work and a humble attitude. No project or assignment is beneath them. They take it on and do it well.”

That CEO was echoing something we at Calvin have heard many times and in many forms: Companies, schools, NGOs, churches—organizations of all kinds—like to hire Calvin graduates. They are impressed by our graduates’ ability to think critically, communicate well and work collaboratively. These and other skills combined with proven Christian character are measures of success for us as an institution. Getting there is a process that starts the day our students arrive on campus.

Always focused on our mission to be agents of renewal in God’s Kingdom, we consistently challenge our students to view their classroom work, their research and their day-to-day lives through the lens of faith. The Calvin core curriculum is carefully designed to embed knowledge, skills and virtues into the academic program. Through their internships, professional

training and research experiences—whether it’s a student engineer designing airplane parts in Germany or a nursing student doing a blood pressure check in a Grand Rapids clinic—Calvin students learn firsthand what it is to practice their professions.

And, increasingly, they’re learning it in other countries. They’re doing international development in Thailand, developing pharmaceuticals in Germany, studying Mandarin in China and learning about solar technology in South Africa.

We enjoy seeing this crucial Christian formation taking place in our students, and we celebrate the impact Calvin grads are making on the world.

Sincerely,

Gaylen Byker
President

A Calvin College education is about...

Learning with top scholars – Students enjoy collaborative learning relationships with professors who stand at the top of their fields, producing research comparable to that found at larger universities.

Entering courageous discussions – Calvin is a Christian community willing to tackle tough issues and shoulder big ideas in every channel of today’s culture.

Living in intentional community – The student life experience includes faith and worship, student clubs and organizations, dining halls and coffee shops, sports and recreation and a beautiful campus where students can discover themselves and what God has planned for them.

Connecting globally – Calvin students engage the world through international internships, research projects, 14 off-campus semester programs, seven foreign language offerings and activities that range from Global Business Brigades to Model UN.

Becoming world ready – Employers appreciate how Calvin’s rigorous liberal arts education shapes the whole person with the faith, knowledge and skills to walk confidently into a career and life.

Engaging Grand Rapids – Comfortably urban and creatively growing, Grand Rapids is a truly a one-of-a-kind city, shining bright on the west side of Michigan.

Calvin Facts

Founded in 1876 in Grand Rapids, Michigan and named for John Calvin, the 16th-century Protestant reformer, Calvin College is a comprehensive liberal arts college in the Reformed tradition of historic Christianity. Through our learning, we seek to be agents of renewal in the academy, church, and society.

- ❖ *U.S. News & World Report* regularly ranks Calvin among the top tier of national liberal arts colleges. In 2011, Calvin also appeared ninth in the “Up-and-Comers” category and in the top 25 schools recognized for “A Strong Commitment to Teaching.”
- ❖ The *Princeton Review* reports that Calvin provides “a high quality education from a distinctively Christian perspective, while limiting tuition costs and distributing financial aid resources as broadly and equitably as possible” as well as offering “a dedicated and uniformly excellent faculty.”
- ❖ Calvin has produced seven Fulbright Scholars in the last four years.
- ❖ This year, three Calvin science students have been named Barry M. Goldwater Scholars and one student has received a Goldwater honorable mention. Calvin’s three Goldwaters are among only 300 named nationally.
- ❖ To date, Calvin has received over \$7 million in external grant support for faculty research and faculty projects. Each year, over 120 students work alongside faculty doing research in the sciences, arts and humanities.
- ❖ Calvin is second among baccalaureate institutions nationwide for the number of students who study abroad (short-term duration), according to the annual Open Doors Report from the Institute of International Education.

3,991
students

100 +
majors, minors and
professional programs

92%
of students receive
financial aid

82%
of faculty have highest
degree in their field

77%
of grads are employed
within six months
of graduation

23%
of grads enter graduate
school immediately



School Year Highlights



- ❖ **Covenant Fine Arts Center** – Fall 2011 marked the dedication of the Covenant Fine Arts Center, a \$15 million re-envisioning of a venerable college facility. The remodel added 40,000 square feet for classrooms, offices, instrument storage, a music library, practice and teaching spaces and a student lounge—plus a new 240-seat recital hall and a 3,800 square-foot art gallery.
- ❖ **Pieter Bruegel Exhibit** – To celebrate the opening of the new Center Art Gallery, Calvin hosted “The Humor and Wit of Pieter Bruegel the Elder,” an exhibition of 16th-century engravings featuring Bruegel’s depictions of the classical virtues and vices.
- ❖ **10th Anniversary of UNLEARN week** – October saw the tenth anniversary of UNLEARN week, a week of anti-racism programs and events designed to challenge the many generalizations, stereotypes and assumptions that maintain racism in our society.
- ❖ **Women’s Volleyball Championship** – On November 22, the Calvin women’s volleyball team captured the NCAA Division III Volleyball Championship—the ninth DIII championship in the college’s sports history.
- ❖ **Integrated Science Research Facility** – In December, Calvin began construction of a 4,450-square-foot wet lab. When it opens in April, the Integrated Science Research Institute (ISRI)—funded by a \$1 million academic research grant from the National Science Foundation—will be a hub for collaborative research between faculty from chemistry, biology, physics and computer science.
- ❖ **Calvin Symposium on Worship** – January 27 through 29, pastors, worship leaders, worship planners, artists, musicians, scholars, students and others from around the world convened at Calvin for the annual Calvin Symposium on Worship, sponsored by the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship.
- ❖ **January Series** – Cal Ripken, Jr. and Temple Grandin were among the 14 speakers at this year’s January Series, Calvin’s award-winning lecture series. The three-week event was broadcast to 30 remote locations around the country.
- ❖ **Faculty Awards Dinner** – At the annual Faculty Awards Dinner on February 10, Larry Herzberg—the father of Chinese and Japanese language studies at Calvin—was given the college’s highest teaching honor, the Presidential Award for Exemplary Teaching. Four other professors were also honored with awards at the event, sponsored by the provost’s office.
- ❖ **Campus-wide Bible Study** – Throughout the fall semester, 1500 Calvin students, faculty and staff gathered in small groups to study the book of Philippians, an experiment in studying the Bible in community.

Incoming Student Profile

26

average ACT score

3.6

average GPA

45.5%

had GPA of 3.75 or higher

31%

were in the top ten percent of high school graduating class

18

National Merit Scholars—third highest in Michigan.

53.3%

attended a private high school

43.2%

attended a public high school

3.5%

were homeschooled

50/50

female/male ratio

11.7%

are racial/ethnic minorities

10%

are from outside the U.S.

50.8%

from Michigan

40.6%

attend Christian Reformed Churches

59.4%

have other church affiliations

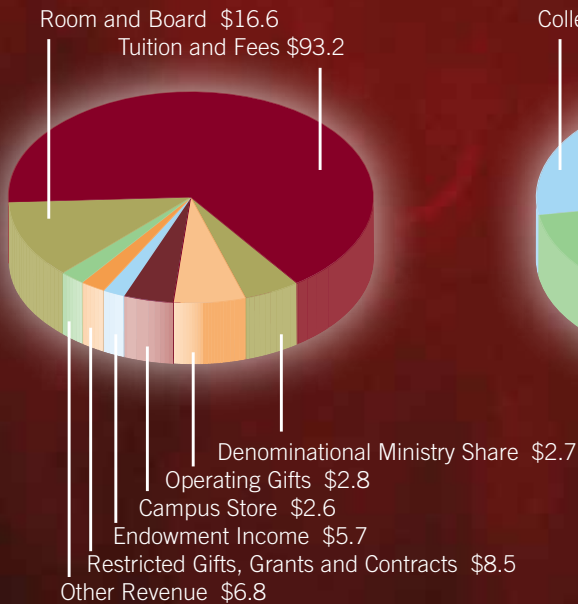
38.6%

children of alumni

Our Finances

Current Funds Revenue 2010

\$139.9 Total (in millions)



Current Funds Expenditures

\$138.9 Total (in millions)

